Amount of loan granted by nationalised banks in Andhra Pradesh to agricultural sector

939. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loan granted by the nationalised banks in Andhra Pradesh to agricultural sector during 1988-89;

(b) whether the loans granted by the nationalised banks in Andhra Pradesh for agricultural operations are on the same scale as in other States;

(c) whether the banks are giving loans to all the farmers without any distinction;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any targets have been fixed for giving loans to the farmers in Andhra Pradesh during 1989-90; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) As per the data received from Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the outstanding advances of Public Sector Banks to Agriculture in Andhra Pradesh as at the end of June, 1987 (latest available) were Rs. 183.2 crores.

(b) to (d) Extension of credit in a particular State or to a particular category of borrowers depends upon number of factors i.e. level of economic activity and credit absorption capacity etc. Banks have to adhere to guidelines/instructions issued by RBI from time to time regarding lending to borrowers including farmers without any discrimination.

(e) and (f) There are no specific targets for lending in a particular State. However, to enchance flow of credit to farmers, commercial banks have been asked to improve the share of direct finance to Agriculture in total outstanding advances to 18 per cent by the end of March, 1989.

Cases of non-Central Government employees decided by Delhi High Court

940. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the service cases of non-Central Government employees of Corporations, Societies funded and Controlled by Central Government and decided by the High Court of Delhi during 1987 and 1988?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): The number of such cases decided by Delhi High Court during the year 1987 and 1988 was 40 and 106, respectively.

"Ban on import of Hazardous Chemicals"

941. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several hazardous pesticides banned in countries of their manufacture and origin continue to be imported and manufactured in the country despite recommendation of high powered Conference of States and Union Territories held in December, 1988;

(b) whether Customs authorities and Chief Controller of Imports and Exports will look into the matter as per Govrenment's decision; and

(c) whether the Department of Environment have formulated suitable rules and regulations under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for such imports, exports and also against clandestine imports of toxic wastes?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The Conference of the Officers of the States and Union Trritories held in December, 1988 did not specifically discuss the import of pesticides banned in the countries of their manufacture and origin. This Conference discussed the Draft Rules to regulate the import of hazardous and toxic chemicals including some pesticides.

(b) The Chief Controller of Imports and Exports has been requested by the Ministry of Environment and Forests to consider regulating such imports.

(c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests have prepared Draft Rules incorporating suitable provisions in this regard.

Water pollution by industries

942. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the complaints received on pollution of water from industries producing H-acid in Udaipur area of Rajasthan and if so, action taken thereon;

(b) whether Government are also aware that despite provision of undertaking surveys in ICAR Coordinator Projects on Pesticides, very little work has been done on water pollution from pesticides;

(c) whether Central Water Pollution Control Board has also totally failed in this respect and if so, details of corrective action taken/proposed to monitor water supplies in river|ponds and underground specially in States|Districts like Punjab where pesticides are used in large quantities; and

(d) whether all available data on pesticides in water will be put together by the Central Water Pollution Board and published at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir. Two units, namely, M/s. Silver Chemicals and M/s. Jyoti Chemicals in Udaipur are engaged in the manufacture of H-Acid. The steps taken to control the pollution from these units include the following:—

(i) Consent has been refused in the case of M|s. Silver Chemicals by the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, on the ground of violation of the consent conditions.

(ii) The Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board has filed a case against M|s. Silver Chemicals before the Chief Judicial Magistrate under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act.

The Board has also requested the State Government to issue directions under Section of 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, for closure of the plant.

(iii) M|s. Jyoti Chemicals made an application for consent to manufacture H. Acid on February 9, 1989. The industry had changed the process of manufacture from ferric alum to H. Acid without prior approval of the Board and the consent application is to be rejected.

(b) No work has been done so far on water pollution from pesticides under the ICAR Coordinated Projects on pesticides.

(c) Water quality of the Ganga is being monitored for 7 types of pesticides at 27 locations under the Ganga Action Plan through the Industrial Toxicological Research Centre. The Central Pollution Control Board monitors the effluent from pesticide factories.

(d) Does not arise.

Ratio of foreign money to Indian currency in the form of debt

943. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the ratio of foreign money to the Indian currency in the form of debt, aid and investment in 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): The ratio of the country's external debt outstanding to the total currency stock with the public at the end of years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 amounted to 22.7 per cent, 27.5 per cent and 29.9 per cent respectively. Similarly, ratio of external